

Public Issues Report 2nd Quarter 2008

Public File 2008 – 2nd Quarter

News at

6:01am	7:01	8:01
6:15	7:15	8:15
6:31	7:31	8:31
6:45	7:45	8:45

April 1

Lawmakers put a bill back on the shelf that would have allowed military vets and other people who have had firearms training to carry concealed weapons on college campuses. Sponsors of the bill claimed it would improve safety because the guns would have been in the hands of people with proper training.

April 2

Big oil companies discussed with congress why their profits were so large and blamed them on higher spending on alternative fuels and securing their investment in the future. A suspicious passenger was arrested at Orlando MCO airport and was found to have explosive material in his bag. The man will be tried for attempting to bring explosives on a plane.

April 3

A bill to ease the slumping housing market is getting a thumbs up by the government. Glaxo Smith Kline says some people taking Relenza started to have hallucinations and seizures.

April 4

The National Weather Service says a tornado passed directly over its offices at the north Little Rock, Arkansas airport.

A-T-A airlines claims to have closed it's doors and filed for bankruptcy, because it couldn't stay in business after losing a key contract for its military charter operation.

April 7

Former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan says there is a 50 percent chance that the U.S. economy could go into recession.

According to the Lundberg survey, gas prices have reached an all-time inflation-adjusted record of 3-dollars-and-32 cents for a gallon of regular.

April 8

More than 400 children are now in temporary state custody after being removed from a religious compound in Texas.

A new Harvard study finds that babies and toddlers who sleep fewer than 12 hours a day are at risk for being overweight in preschool.

April 9

President Bush wants to give Afghanistan another four billion dollars in aid.

The International Monetary Fund says losses from the U.S. sub prime mortgage crisis could hit 945 billion dollars worldwide.

April 10

The carrier has cancelled 900 flights today so mechanics can fix faulty wiring in hundreds of jets md-80 jets

The Federal Communications Commission has just green-lighted a national plan to allow emergency text messages be sent to your phone.

April 11

Top white house officials from the V-P down are being accused of green lighting the use of harsh interrogation techniques.

The Independent Joint Commission just issued a recommendation this morning that children be weighed in kilograms when they're admitted instead of pounds.

April 14

Experts say more small and mid-sized businesses are coming under I-R-S scrutiny this year while the big boys slide by.

Two universities have canceled classes today after cops found threatening graffiti messages on some bathroom walls.

April 15

The House approved a measure yesterday to make sure none of our tax dollars go to companies that don't pay their taxes.

A senate panel plans to investigate the feds funding a research project to put sewage sludge on lawns in poor, black neighborhoods.

April 16

Three people have died in a wildfire burning in southeast Colorado, which cops believe was fueled by left-over burning trash.

Senators on the hill were putting a leash on the E-P-A's top dogs wanting to know why the public knew about trace drugs in drinking water before they did.

April 17

One million students who attend junior college have the door slammed in their face when it comes to getting federal loans, because their schools aren't in the federal loan program.

The Federal Reserve's beige book survey reports consumers were being hit hard by the damaging impacts of the credit and housing slumps.

April 18

According to an internal survey, nine out of every 10 people who work at the Homeland Security Department think the work they do is important, but wouldn't recommend it to other people.

U.S. retail sales of video games jumped 57 percent to one point seven billion dollars in March.

April 21

A survey says the national average price for regular gasoline rose nearly 16 cents in the last two weeks.

For just under ten bucks, starting today you could make unlimited calls to 34 countries.

April 22

Industry watchers say fuel costs will continue to climb as crude oil set another record on Monday, closing at more than 117 bucks a barrel.

According to a USA today poll 56 percent of women prefer to be thin than smart.

April 23

The government is replacing its highly touted "virtual fence" on the Arizona-Mexico border with good old fashioned towers, radars, cameras and computers.

Some independent gas stations are offering discounts to customers who pay with cash in an attempt to save the owners some money.

April 24

According to a USA today poll, 35 percent of Americans save for retirement more than anything else.

A Syrian cabinet minister says that Israel has extended an olive branch to Damascus saying it will return the Golan Heights area to Syria in exchange for a peace treaty.

April 25

The price of crude oil plunged more than three dollars overnight to 114 bucks a barrel.

The budgets of 23 states, including Puerto Rico, are so bad that it look like they are in a recession.

April 28

By 2020 the Forum of Child and Family Statistics says 24 percent of the population will be kids.

The number of pregnant women with diabetes has more than doubled over the last seven years, because many of them don't know they have it.

April 29

A new study shows 69-percent of women who eat chocolate when they're pregnant are less likely to have high blood pressure, chest pain, and hardened arteries.

More than 200 people were hurt due to the trio of tornadoes that ripped through southern Virginia. So far there are no reports of any deaths.

April 30

The Federal Reserve is deciding whether or not to allow another one-quarter of a percent interest rate cut, which would drop the prime lending rate down to 5 percent for certain credit cards, home equity lines of credit, and other loans.

A new study says almost half of all Americans are 'struggling' to stay happy and healthy.

May 1

A study done at the American College of Sports Medicine shows it's easier for men to lose weight than it is for women, because men have a faster metabolism.

Researchers from National Cancer Institute say women who take an aspirin every day lower their risk of getting a certain type of breast cancer by 16-percent.

May 2

About 25 percent of U.S kids between 5 and 12 years old get more than 20 bucks in allowance a month.

A section of Harvard square is closed this morning after an underground electrical fire.

May 5

American children are prescribed medicines about six times more than kids across the pond according to this month's edition of Journal Pediatrics.

One of Iran's top dogs says his country will not give into international pressure and give up its nuclear program.

May 6

The death toll from the killer cyclone that hit Myanmar stands at 10-thousand people. 286 thousand pounds of meat and poultry are being recalled because it might be contaminated with listeria.

May 7

55 percent of Americans say fast food is their cuisine of choice while driving.

Dmitry Medvedev has taken the Russian presidential oath of office today at the Kremlin, succeeding Vladimir Putin.

May 8

A California woman who was on the run for 32 years is on her way back to a Detroit prison to finish her 20 year drug sentence.

A national survey by Bell Investment advisors shows one in four 60 year olds are having to make big lifestyle changes, such as giving less to charity, canceling vacations, reducing retirement savings or postponing retirement altogether.

May 9

Surfing Facebook just became a whole lot safer thanks to the popular website installing new safeguards that ban convicted sex offenders from the site.

The three biggest U-S carriers say that they have raised ticket prices by 20 bucks roundtrip, to cover the costs of the rising gas prices.

May 12

A memorabilia dealer who made money off of O-J Simpson for years claims the former football great confessed to him that he killed his ex-wife, Nicole brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldman.

Two families are going to federal court, because they believe there's a mercury-based preservative in vaccines, called thimerosal that triggers autism.

May 13

The national weather service says you have an average of 13 minutes to get ready after a tornado warning is issued.

The military rulers of Myanmar have agreed to accept more U-S help, opening the door for what could be a massive cyclone relief operation.

May 14

More than half of all Americans take some sort of prescription medication according to a new study.

Three out of every 10 homes get most or all their calls on a cell phone according to a new federal survey out today.

May 15

A quarter of all Americans are at least 15 minutes late to work three times a month as reported in U.S.A. today.

Ford is recalling more than half million pick-up trucks, because they have defective hoses that could affect the way the trucks' brakes work.

May 16

California's top court's decision to legalize gay marriage could open the door for gay couples to be married as soon as next month.

Airlines have reduced the amount of spare fuel on planes, and that means more flights will probably be diverted.

May 19

Despite crews cleaning up a hydrochloric acid spill from a derailed tanker car, 3-thousand people who live in Lafayette Louisiana, are being allowed to go back home this morning..

President Bush asked the Saudi king to pump up production to help ease the high gas prices, but the king said no.

May 20

Officials say some of the construction workers were burned and others hurt by debris when an explosion took out several floors of the Hilton hotel in San Diego.

Two people are now banned from setting sail on the Royal Caribbean after complaining too much.

May 21

51 percent of people polled by USA Today say they lose about an hour of sleep when their partner snores at night.

Federal and state officials have answered the call for a crackdown on telemarketing scams.

May 22

American Airlines has announced it is cutting at least 300 flights a day to offset the rising fuel costs.

56 percent of Americans say celebrity support either "definitely" or "probably" changes people's views about which candidate to support.

May 23

All three of the leading game consoles have been found to contain hazardous chemicals and materials.

It's back to work for the united auto workers as their three month long strike finally comes to an end.

May 26

Environmental leaders from the eight richest countries of the world joined together for the G8 environment ministers meeting in Kobe, Japan over the weekend.

The Mars Lander made a successful touchdown this morning on the red planet!

May 27

Viacom has a one billion dollar lawsuit against youtube, claiming copyright infringement.

Researchers say there is "no" advantage to eating several small meals a day as opposed to three big ones.

May 28

Roughly 32 percent of American children were labeled as "overweight" in 2005 and 2006.

New research shows kids in public schools are doing just as well as those in private classes.

May 29

California state officials say they will start issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples on June 17th.

Network evening anchors Charles Gibson, Katie Couric and Brian Williams announced a live primetime special event to raise money for cancer research yesterday.

May 30

Rolling Stone has just released its list of the 100 greatest guitar songs of all time.

Half the people surveyed said flying is too much of a hassle, and more than a quarter of them told the travel industry association they skipped at least one flight in the last year because of hassels.

June 2

NASA will be looking for damage to shuttle discovery this morning, when it gets closer to the international space station.

Canoeists on a receding lake about 20 miles north of Amarillo, Texas have found the wreckage of a small plane that crashed in 1984.

June 3

Rainbow flags in California are flying at half mast this morning after word that an initiative to outlaw gay marriage will be on the November ballot.

A new study from U.S.A. Today says that 96 percent of commuters say their commute to work is either getting worse or is staying about the same.

June 4

A new study from down under shows the part of the brain that regulates memory and emotion, and another that gauges fear and aggression grew smaller in heavy pot smoking men.

Big time hurricane researcher, William grey, predicts eight hurricanes will form in the Atlantic this year.

June 5

The international Olympic committee has narrowed down the list of candidates for the 20-16 summer Olympics to four cities.

A new study from U-C-L-A says if just half of Cali's 92 thousand gay couples decide to march down the aisle, the state economy could see a 370 million dollars boost.

June 6

Defense secretary, Robert Gates, is coming up with a short list of candidates to replace the air force's chief of staff general Michael Moseley and secretary Michael Wynne.

So many people are buying scooters these days to cut down on the cost of gas that dealers are having a hard time keeping them in stock.

June 9

An estimated two million people turned out to celebrate Puerto Rican pride on New York City's fifth avenue.

Researchers in North Carolina say teenage drivers haven't hung up their cell phones in the car, despite the law that was passed two years ago.

June 10

Oil prices are hovering around the 135 dollar mark this morning on the Asian markets. A new survey by an employment firm named "manpower" shows 26 percent of U-S employers plan to hire people in the next few months.

June 11

Workers released 400 thousand hollow plastic balls into one of I-a's last remaining open-air reservoirs yesterday.

Researchers used government death statistics to come up with a list of your odds of dying in the next ten years.

June 12

56 percent of moms in America who say they have to do more with less in these hard economic times.

About 11-thousand soldiers in the Army could be forced to stick around longer than they signed up for due to the stop-loss program.

June 13

More than 30 people have died in this recent heat wave on the East coast.

The number of homeowners caught up in this mortgage crisis is up 50 percent this year.

June 16

The Iowa River swelled over the weekend flooding Iowa City.

Amtrak is suspending service from St. Paul and Chicago and Denver due to the severe flooding in the Midwest.

June 17

U.S.A. Today says 10 percent of peoples' cars have a check engine light on, and half of those have been on for more than three months.

Researchers say managers who don't micro-manage you and allow you flexible hours help minimize work stress.

June 18

If you eat more than 40 grams of sugar a day you are suffering from sugar overload.

A Virginia judge approved an 11 million-dollar settlement with most of the families and victims in last year's Virginia tech shooting.

June 19

Storms and flooding across six states this month have killed 24 people and hurt 148 others.

Americans drove 30 billion fewer miles from November through April than during the same time in 2006 to 2007.

June 20

Only 17 percent of Americans say they believe the country is moving in the right direction despite high gas prices and a weak economy.

The House will vote today on a compromise that could give telecommunication companies some immunity for letting the Bush administration spy on suspected terrorists after 9-11.

June 23

Nonprofit groups and fundraisers raised 306 billion dollars last year to help the needy, but they due to the current economic woes they are not sure if they will reach the same number this year.

Researchers at Harvard University say that the housing market is so bad because of record fore-closures and limited credit.

June 24

43 percent of people told Paypal that shipping costs are too high, so a lot of regulars are logging off.

78 percent of people polled by the pew daily research team say education will determine who they vote for in the presidential elections this fall.

June 25

USA Today reports the feds have diverted millions of rebate checks to pay back money "you" owe the government.

Many pediatricians believe kids who "graze" or eat several small meals throughout the day are healthier and tend to behave better because they have a more stable blood sugar.

June 26

Although the Supreme Court says it's unconstitutional, angry lawmakers still promise to do whatever it takes to put child rapists on death row.

It's estimated that more than 10 and a-half million teenagers in the U-S drink.

June 27

North Korea destroyed the nuclear reactor tower at its main atomic facility.

President Bush is getting his ink pen ready to sign a 162 million dollar war funding bill.

June 30

Six out of ten smokers between 35 and 65 say they're ready to quit for good this time.

The governor of Missouri says seven counties that have been flooded can get federal disaster money.